

Property - 1927

Arkansas.

BRONX HOME NEWS

MAR 18 1927

Colored Boys Made Rich by Oil on Inherited Farm

Chicago.—The second-rate soil of a small Arkansas farm has turned to gold for two small colored boys who, until a few weeks ago, lived unobtrusively in the Chicago Colored district.

Oil wells on their mother's farm, which they inherited when she died three years ago in Cameron, Ark., are producing an income of \$12,000 a month each for Arthur and John Sewell, 8 and 10 years old respectively.

Arthur Sewell, father of the young millionaires, came to Chicago after their mother's death and later married again. He worked in a factory. Debts accumulated faster than he could meet them.

As a result he negotiated a loan of \$400 on the Cameron farm. The mortgage came due and he had nothing with which to pay it. The "gold mine" almost slipped away for want of a sum which the wells are now producing in a few hours.

Sewell was able to borrow enough to save his boys' property from the firm for which he worked, however. The discovery of oil and sudden wealth followed.

The father of the lucky youths has decided they will not be "spoiled" by their money.

2 RICH COLORED LADS

GET YEARLY INCOME OF \$144,000

Chicago, Ill., March 7, 1927.—Two little colored boys, 8 and 10, romp and play with their schoolmates in the neighborhood grade school oblivious to the fact that their incomes are just a little more than twice as much as the President of the United States is paid by way of salary each year.

FARM SPOUTS OIL; COLORED FAMILY RICH

Arthur Sewell Here to Back Liberian Colonies.

Three years ago when Arthur Sewell left his farm in Cameron, Ark., because he couldn't make a living there and brought his two motherless little boys to Chicago they were as poor as any colored people who ever came north.

Today, with royalties from the twenty-two oil wells on that same farm swelling their income to \$12,000 monthly, with \$250,000 out in investments, with automobiles, servants and all the desired luxury, the Sewells are among the luckiest and richest of their race.

Sewell Tells His Story.

Yesterday in his beautiful home at 4911 Vincennes avenue, which he bought last August, Mr. Sewell related the story of the magic and oily Eldorado at Cameron that changed their fortunes over night and discussed the plans he has made for eight year old John Weldon Sewell and 10 year old William Arthur Sewell, only heirs to his fortune. He wants college educations for them and for his people colonies in Liberia.

On their arrival in Chicago, Mr. Sewell got a job as janitor for the International Harvester company, he said. When the mortgage fell due on his 240 acre farm in Ouachita county, Arkansas, he tried in vain to borrow \$350 from banks and from friends. At last he appealed to the superintendent at the International Harvester plant. That man agreed to advance him the money. Exactly six months later oil was discovered one-half mile from the farm, and Mr. Sewell later found himself the possessor of 240 acres of rich oil land. He leased the tract to an

oil company which has been sending him a monthly check for \$12,000.

Sons Can't Realize It.

"John and Arthur don't realize how rich they are," Mr. Sewell explained. "They just play around with the other boys at the Francis Willard school at 49th and St. Lawrence avenues, where Arthur is in fifth grade and John is in second. Next fall I intend to send them to a private school. Arthur will soon be old enough to drive the car."

For their college training, Mr. Sewell expects to send his sons abroad where he believes the opportunities for colored students are greater. Afterward, he wants them to start colonizing in Liberia, working among their own people for the advancement of the

colored race.

Tells Liberian Plan.

"My plan is to buy several thousand acres of farm land in Liberia, plot it out to tenants and raise cotton and sugar cane. Just such men as my sons with education and wealth are needed to work among their own flesh and blood, found schools and colleges and develop the unlimited possibilities of Africa."

Mr. Sewell himself did not go to school beyond the eighth grade. The property in Arkansas belonged to his first wife, Parthenia Edith Barry Sewell who died in 1920, leaving no will. Mr. Sewell was appointed guardian of his two sons in a Cook county court in 1924.

22 OIL WELLS SPOUT GOLD TO ENRICH FAMILY WHO IN 1924 CAME HERE 'BROKE'

Some call it "luck" for want of a better name, but whatever it may be termed, it would be a job to find anyone who would not welcome the fortune that has come the way of Arthur Sewell, 4911 Vincennes Ave., and his two young sons. Broke and down-hearted three years ago, after the death of his wife, the father pulled up stakes in Cameron, Ark., and brought his two children to Chicago.

On their arrival in Chicago Mr. Sewell got a job as janitor for the International Harvester company, he said. When the mortgage fell due on his 240 acre farm in Ouachita county, Arkansas, he tried in vain to borrow \$350 from banks and from friends. At last he appealed to the superintendent at the International Harvester plant. That man agreed to advance him the money.

Discover Oil

Exactly six months later oil was discovered one-half mile from the farm and Mr. Sewell later found himself the possessor of 240 acres of rich oil land. He leased the tract to an oil company, which has been sending him a monthly check for \$12,000. With \$250,000 out in investments, with automobiles, servants, and all the desired luxuries, the Sewells are among the luckiest and richest of their race.

Plans Education Abroad

Mr. Sewell has not made any definite decisions regarding the future of his two boys. He takes the view that they must follow their natural inclinations, and does not believe in parental interference too much.

"I am certain that they must get the best possible education," he said. "I got mine between plowshares and from association with people who were educated. I know the cultural environment of Europe offers better educational opportunities than America, so I think I shall send the boys there for their university training."

At present John W., 8 years old, and Arthur, Jr., 10, are just the usual healthy, romping youngsters that make up the large attendance at the Frances C. Willard school at 49th St. and St. Lawrence Ave. John is in second grade and Arthur is a fifth grade student.

Among other plans for the future, touched upon by the wealthy oil man, was the colonization and cultivation of tracts in Liberia, and work in the interest of social and economic

uplift among the Africans.

The property in Arkansas belonged to his first wife, Parthenia Edith Barry Sewell, who died in 1920, leaving no will. Mr. Sewell was appointed guardian of his two sons in a Cook county court in 1924.

Property-1927

Arizona.

100,000 Acres Arizona Land Now Available to Negro Homesteaders

**Veterans of World War Get 90
Days Priority Rights to File.**

(Pacific Coast News Bureau)

Phoenix, Ariz., June 13.—Homesteading lands in the Far West are fast becoming a thing of the past. But there still remains many thousands of acres available to the colored people of the United States: the latest tract of which is to be thrown open for public entry being that of 100,000 acres of land in Maricopa, Yavapai and Mohave counties, Arizona.

This vast tract of land was declared open to entry beginning July 11th. Persons claiming prior settlement rights might file for 110 days beginning then. Veterans of the World War come next, also from July 11th, while the others may file beginning Oct. 11th.

Wonderful Opportunity

According to a recent letter published in a western publication and received from a Negro homesteader in Arizona, there is a wonderful opportunity available to any Negro who desires to secure a tract of land in the state of Arizona. This homesteader states, in part:

"We are struggling to succeed, and need the assistance of our people. There is plenty of land here to be homesteaded enough for a thousand families if they would only come out here and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. This is the greatest future prospect for the colored man in the southwest, so far as homesteading is concerned. We have four good wells that afford an inexhaustible supply of water for

the present demand and two more wells are now being drilled to add to the present supply.

"We have an excellent school conducted by a very splendid teacher. This is the only mixed school in the state of Arizona having a colored teacher, there are four white children enrolled. The county superintendent has recommended to the board of supervisors that two townships be set apart for a school district out here. We are looking forward for the best school in Yuma county. Our school closed on June 10, and we are sending you an announcement for publication.

"I am conducting a store for the accommodation of the homesteaders. Many of the homesteaders are already making wonderful improvements. I have a very excellent garden and just harvested a crop of onions, some weighing over a pound. I also have set out some apricot trees and a young vineyard is on the way. My chickens and turkeys are thriving very rapidly. I have 40 laying hens, together with a brood of small chicks rapidly approaching the frying pan, and 21 spring turkeys.

"We beg you to urge our people, through your columns, to take advantage of this opportunity, because it is very needful to the race. This opportunity will not repeat itself any more, and the people should not let it pass."

(Note—Parties interested will be given the full details on request if they address their inquiries to the Pacific Coast Service

Bureau, care this journal, and enclose a 2c stamp for reply. No charges to readers of this newspaper.)

Property - 1927.

White Man Leaves Huge Fortune to John Spaulding

Los Angeles, Cal.—John E. Spaulding, owner and operator of the Spaulding Motor Oil Company and brother of C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company of Durham, N. C., came into the possession of a vast state left to him by John Smith (white), an eccentric and wealthy southerner, who claimed in his will that Spaulding had been his best friend in the last years of his life.

Smith's widow contested the probate of the will in a long and hard-fought court battle, which lasted over two years. The property is estimated to be worth between \$160,000 and \$200,000.

SOUTHERNER LEAVES A HUGE FORTUNE TO LOCAL BUSINESS MAN

John E. Spaulding, of 158 N. Occidental, owner and operator of the Spaulding Motor Oil company on Larchmont boulevard, and brother of C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance company of Durham, N. C., came into the possession of a vast estate left to him by John Smith (white), an eccentric and wealthy southerner, who claimed in his will that Spaulding had been his best friend in the last years of his life.

Smith's widow contested the probate of the will in a long and hard-fought court battle which lasted over two years. The property is estimated to be worth between \$160,000 and \$200,000. Mr. Spaulding declares he will turn his attention to bigger business, and has become an investor in the Hefflin Manufacturing company.

WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA

JUL 18 1927

LOCAL NEGRO IS LEFT BIG AMOUNT

John Spaulding Willed Over Half Million by Western White Friend

A Wilmington negro, John E. Spaulding, is the present possessor of a fortune amounting to more than a half million dollars, left to him in the far west and won in a sustained legal battle that lasted over a year.

Spaulding left Wilmington some years ago and went to California. After a time spent in a small contracting business, he set up a motor oil service station. There one of his first customers was a wealthy white man.

The Wilmington negro gave him the best service in his power, and the white man appreciated it. So much that he continued to come back, and the acquaintanceship grew. At the death of the white man, his fortune was willed to Spaulding. Following a contest of the will, the negro won his fight in the courts and the money is now his.

"The New York Age," a negro publication, gave an account of the affair, as follows:

"John E. Spaulding is one of the west's most interesting and remarkable figures. Born in Wilmington, N. C., the sixth in a family of 11 children, he came to California 11 years ago.

"Arriving in Los Angeles, he started doing small contracting and later set up a motor oil service. One of his first customers was an aged white gentleman, who had become estranged from his wife and who found solace in the company of Spaulding.

"There acquaintance grew and ripened into friendship, and at his death the old gentleman, showed his appreciation of the friendship of Spaulding by willing to him all of his real and personal property, amount to half a million dollars.

"There was a legal battle, which lasted over a year in which Spaul-

ding was victor; and about six months ago he came into possession of all the real estate and monies.

"Spaulding is heavily interested in the Heffling Furniture Manufacturing company which has just completed its new \$100,000 plant. He is a member of the board of directors and first vice president of the company. He is now touring the middle west, south and east, including a trip to Wilmington to visit his mother and friends of his old home town."

NEGRO RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION ON PACIFIC COAST INCREASES

One Colored Builder Awarded Contracts Totalling \$100,000.

(Pacific Coast News Bureau)

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Aug. 8.

—Although a drop of \$200,000 is shown by June figures of construction activity for the Pacific Coast area, Los Angeles maintains her stand at the head of the Pacific Coast cities in building activity with San Francisco second, Seattle third and Portland fourth. Hollywood beat Oakland to fifth place.

10,265 permits, representing 42,319,038 were issued last year for dwelling houses of the single and double class; 644 permits representing \$21,131,480 were issued for apartment houses. The average valuation per permit for residential construction is \$3,210.

Negro Invests \$1,000,000

Of this total valuation no statistics are available as to what percentage represents the Black American's investment. However, when one Negro contractor alone is awarded over \$100,000 in contracts, it is safe to estimate that the total money invested by the Negro thru both colored and white contractors will exceed the million mark for the year of 1927.

Among the recent contracts awarded W. H. Terry, colored builder and contractor, are included a \$16,000 apartment at 446 N. Westmoreland Ave., for J. T. Edwards; a \$20,000 10-room stucco apartment court at 1122 E. 42nd

street for W. M. Johnson; a \$14,000 apartment at 1226 E. Adams street for J. H. Sykes; a \$10,000 resident in the 1100 block on So. Serran street for Atty. Willis O. Tyler; a \$15,000 four-family flat at 1606 W. 35th street for T. A. Harson and many others of smaller investments.

Mr. Terry is a member of the Board of Directors of the Unity Finance company and has considerable property holdings in and near Los Angeles.

SURVEY LAND HOLDINGS OF RACE IN CALIFORNIA

Pacific Coast News Bureau

PALO ALTO, Calif., Mar. 16—A state wide survey relative to influence of racial color on local restrictions and land values in the state of California has been started by Prof. Elliot G. Mears of Stanford University for the Institute of International Relations.

Realty Boards Co-Operate

The California Real Estate Association co-operating with Prof. Mears in the compilation of the survey. A special questionnaire fully covering essential points has been mailed every local board in California.

From all indications the movement is the outcome of a concerted move upon the part of the Realty Boards of the United States to capitalize the adverse publicity given the Supreme Court decision on the Washington (D. C.) Curtis case by fostering national realty racial segregation.

L. A. COLORED MAN OWNS OIL PROPERTY IN NEW FIELD AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Mr. Clarence R. Bailey of Los Angeles is the owner of one and one-half lots located in the rapidly developing oil field known as the Alamitos Heights Field at Long Beach, just east of the city of Long Beach, and said to be a continuation of the Signal Hill structure of oil sands. Mr. Bailey purchased this property in 1918, with no idea that oil would ever be found on or near it, but recent developments around the immediate vicinity of this property have placed this property in the category of proven oil land. There are several producing oil wells within one hundred yards of his property, there being one well within about sixty feet of this property said to be producing more than 1000 barrels per day. On the property immediately adjoining his lots the Pan-American Petroleum Company has a crew of men drilling night and day. At the present time they are down about 3000 feet.

Ocean Defender
Mr. Bailey plans to dispose of one-half interest in this property to his acquaintances and thereby place himself in a position to immediately drill a well as soon as satisfactory arrangements have been completed.

Attorney Afue McDowell has been busy for the last several days working on the legal end of the situation. Mr. Bailey is very cautious and is proceeding very carefully, as he realizes that there have been many failures in oil speculation, but he stoutly maintains that he is not going to attempt to promote a stock-selling campaign or any under-cover method of promotion; but each person who becomes associated with him in this venture will receive for their money a deed entitling them to a substantial proportionate ownership in the property.

9-22-27
At the present time the office of the Eastside Realty Company, 1136 East Twelfth street, is being used by Mr. Bailey as his headquarters, and it is reported that he has closed a deal whereby credit has been obtained for the purpose of expediting the date upon which actual drilling operations will begin on this property.

San Francisco Call
At the present all of Mr. Bailey's time is being taken up making arrangements with drillers, oil well supply companies, and making escrow arrangements preparatory to carrying out his intentions, as above set forth. Anyone wishing to look into the proposition from an investment standpoint is referred to the Eastside Realty Company at 1136 East Twelfth street, METropolitan 0647, whose advertisement appears on another page of this issue.

Property - 1927

Florida.

TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

MAR 28 1927

Tallahassee's colored population has also gotten the 'better home' fever and in various parts of the several colored residential sections will be found attractively finished homes that reflect the pride of these people, many of whom own their homes in fee simple, or who are paying for them on the installment plan.

TRIBUNE
TAMPA, FLA.

NOV 16 1927

WILL FILED AS 3 SEEK ESTATE OF NEGRO TEACHER

C. Meacham Leaves More Than \$600,000 To Foster Daughters

The will of Christine Meacham, aged negro school teacher, involving an estate valued at more than \$600,000, was filed yesterday for probate in county court, after three women, distant cousins of the teacher, came here from Nassau and Key West to claim interest in the estate. Filing of the will was a surprise to the claimants.

Under terms of the will, executed last Sept. 8, the entire estate is left to two negro girls who were reared by

the teacher, Lilla Walker, wife of W. J. Walker, a negro mail carrier, and Arlein Larry. Walker and Blanche A. Beatty, supervisor of negro schools, were named executors, and provision was made for appointment of a third executor by the county judge.

The cousins, represented by H. E. Hampton of the firm of Hampton, Bull and Pencke, were given time yesterday to decide whether they would file objections on the grounds that the teacher was mentally incapacitated at the time it was executed. Heirs under the will are represented by Doyle Campbell and W. J. Wallace.

The document was left in custody of Preston Poughsley, a trained nurse, with instructions that it not be filed for probate until 30 days after the teacher's death. The request was being carried out when the Nassau and Key West cousins arrived.

Christine Meacham, 83, was born in Nassau, but came here when a child. She had been a teacher in Harlem Academy, negro school, more than 40 consecutive years. She died Nov. 4, after teaching that day.

The county school board at its last meeting named the India street negro school for her.

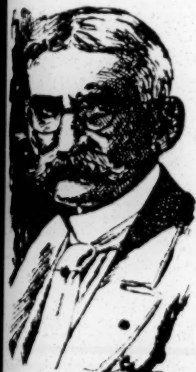
Business and residential property on Central avenue, Scott street, Twenty-second street and in Palma Ceia park, together with a large bank account, are included in the estate.

Property - 1927 LOOKING AND LISTENING

BY SAM W. SMALL

The Encouraging Record of Georgia Negroes in Economic Prosperity.

Those persons away from Georgia who become periodically and politically exercised over the alleged nullification of the fifteenth amendment and the forcible disfranchisement of the negro in Georgia should have the truth on those subjects shoved under their noses.



Of course there is no nullification of the negro suffrage amendment and this writer has not heard in forty years any complaint by a negro that he had been forcibly kept from casting his lawful ballot.

How many negroes in Georgia have qualified themselves, by compliance with the tax payment requisition, to cast a legal ballot in any public election?

The comptroller general of the state, who keeps the record with meticulous care, reports that for the year 1926 there were 78,415 polls paid by colored tax payers. Doubtless very few of them would fail to further qualify by ability to read and write.

It can be fairly assumed that 75,000 of those colored persons are eligible voters.

It is also generally assumed in the north and east that "all negroes are republicans," but in 1920 Harding, republican for president, received only 43,720 votes in this state and in 1924 Coolidge got but 30,300. How come?

The Negro Property Owners.

The negroes of Georgia own 1,486,988 acres of improved farm lands, which is an average of nearly 12 acres each to the 130,187 colored farmers listed in the state. However, most of that number are only laborers and tenants and the real land owners among them are probably around 25,000, giving to each of them an average of between 65 and 70 acres.

The value of those lands, as assessed for taxes at a very low valuation, was \$13,778,812, or a little over \$9 per acre. The actual average value was doubtless around \$40 per acre.

But the bulk of the negro property in the state is in the towns and cities, and last year it was assessed for taxation at \$22,615,670, or 50 per cent more than all the negro rural property in the state.

In this capital county of Fulton the negro rural property is scheduled at \$250,185 and the town and city property in real estate and buildings at \$5,510,260. In Bibb county their rural lands are assessed at \$525,220 and city property at \$2,127,200. In Chat-ham they list \$540,690 of rural and \$2,008,105 of city property. And in Richmond county they returned \$254,590 of rural lands and \$1,657,890 of city realty.

It would seem from those figures that the colored brother is not quite so universally shiftless as has been charged.

He Craves to Joy-Ride.

When he can get the price the negro craves to go joy-riding. In the early days of his emancipation the chief delight of his life was to "ride on the train" going somewhere or anywhere. The practice of the railroads to run "negro excursions" on Sundays to the cities led to those affairs becoming drunken riots, in which men, women and children often lost their lives. The dangers in them became so many and so scandalous that the legislature had to enact a rigid penal statute prohibiting such "excursions."

Since the automobile came into use and "used cars" of the Ford type became easily available the negro joy-rider on the public roads has become one of the sights of every day and night.

Also, the negro rum-runner and inter-county bootlegger have become rich enough to own and operate high-power and expensive motor cars, while prosperous negro farmers are not content to own "only a flivver."

It may surprise some readers to learn that the negroes of Georgia returned for taxation last year automobiles assessed for \$1,331,129 of value.

The amount of their money in hand and solvent debts returned for taxation was \$242,575 and their stocks of merchandise were listed at \$322,952. They had \$3,386,314 worth of horses, mules and other live stock and \$4,160,813 of household and kitchen furniture, valued at \$13,015, and plantation and other tools.

How They "Put on Dog."

It is easy for most taxpayers to "forget" and omit articles of personal adornment and mere "dog." The negro is certainly not exempt from the idiosyncrasy that a mere luxury should be non-taxable. But last year the negroes of Georgia returned for taxation \$16,966 of watches, jewelry and silver plate and "other property" to the value of \$358,582.

In addition to all which they set down on the tax books that those flopped bounds and noisy little fist dogs that infest their town and farm premises were worth paying taxes on to the value of \$13,015—a seemingly high valuation upon the whole caboodle of curs.

It is worthy of special note and gratification that the total returned property of the negroes of the state last year was \$47,007,002.

Those who fully understand the percentage of true values of the properties returned for taxes, both by the whites and the negroes, estimate that the market value of that \$47,000,000 of property is actually close up to \$175,000,000.

That is a state of economic prosperity among the negroes ahead of those

in any other state of the union.

Georgia may well be proud of the industry, thrift and progress that distinguishes her colored citizens. She will do well to encourage their economic endeavors.

clairvoyants, palmists, fortune tellers and other of similar vocations saving themselves.

Georgia Negroes' Property Valued At \$47,007,002

ATLANTA, GA., Feb. 18.—Negroes assessed property valued at \$47,007,002 for taxation in Georgia this year, showing an increase of \$1,284,453 over last year's valuations, according to figures given out Thursday by W. B. Harrison, tax clerk in the office of Comptroller General William A. Wright. The white tax list has not yet been tallied.

The valuation of property owned by Georgia's negroes was summarized as follows: 1,486,988 acres of land, \$13,778,812; city and town property \$22,615,670; automobiles \$1,331,129, money and solvent debts \$242,575, merchandise and stocks of goods \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture \$4,106,813; horses and mules \$3,386,314; jewelry \$16,966; dogs \$13,015; plantation tools and machinery \$630,701 all other property \$562,055.

There were 78,415 negro poll tax payers on the lists, 13 lawyers, 151 doctors, 30 dentists and 45 embalmers.

Sparta, Ga., Ichmaelite

AUG 19 1927

ADMINISTRATOR TO BE APPOINTED SOON

Application has been made to the Ordinary of Hancock county by John Ingram, a son of Sherman Ingram, for

Georgia.

letters of administration on the estate left by Hancock's wealthiest negro farmer. Timber lands included in the estate for which \$40,000 has already been offered will be disposed of later in order to divide same among the heirs, besides a large tract of land. Attorney G. L. Dickens, of this city has been retained by the heirs and will assist in winding up the big estate. Ingram was instantly killed by lightning several weeks ago as he walked through a field near his home. There are said to be seventeen living children who are heirs to the estate, ten of them have already migrated to northern and eastern states, leaving a good labor crew on the old farm to carry on the work.

ATLANTA, GA.

HUGE INCREASE IN NEGRO TAXES

Negro property owners in Georgia during 1926 paid into the State Tax Collector's office a total of \$47,007,002 in taxes, which was an increase over the previous year of \$1,284,453, according to figures compiled Thursday by W. B. Harrison, chief clerk in Comptroller General William A. Wright's office. The figures were compiled from the various county digests of the state.

A compilation of the figures shows that a total of 1,486,988 acres of land is owned by negroes in Georgia, with a value of \$13,778,812; automobiles valued at \$1,331,129, merchandise valued at \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture with a value of \$4,106,813; horses and mules valued at \$3,386,314; dogs with a value of \$13,015, and jewelry valued at \$16,966.

The total number of negro poll taxpayers is 78,415. There are negro lawyers in Georgia; 151 doctors, 30 dentists, and 45 embalmers, the reports show.

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The total number of negro poll taxpayers is 78,415. There are negro lawyers in Georgia; 151 doctors, 30 dentists, and 45 embalmers, the reports show.

First Account Of Herndon Estate Put At \$500,000

ATLANTA, GA. — The will of the late Alonzo E. Herndon, estimated in the first accounting at \$500,000, was admitted to probate in the office of the ordinary of Fulton County, here Friday.

While the bulk of the estate was bequeathed to his widow, Mrs. Jessie H. Herndon, and his son Norris B. Herndon, five institutions, the Herndon Social Center, will get \$2,000 and Atlanta University, Leonard Street Orphanage, Diana Pace Orphanage of Covington and Carrie Steeke Orphanage will get \$1,000 each.

Sums of \$1,000 each will also go to Miss Carrie H. Herndon, a niece; Alonzo Herndon, a nephew; and Richmond Berry, a cousin.

GEORGIA NEGRO PROPERTY GROWS

Carroll, Ga. Times

FEB 24 1927

Negroes' assessed property valued at \$47,007,002 for taxation in Georgia this year, showing an increase of \$1,284,453 over last year's valuation, according to figures given out by W. B. Harrison, tax clerk in the office of Comptroller General William A. Wright. The white tax list has not yet been totaled.

The valuation of property owned by Georgia negroes was summarized as follows: 148,988 acres of land, \$13,778,812; city and town property, \$22,615,670; automobiles, \$1,331,129; money and solvent debts, \$242,575; merchandise and stocks of goods, \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture, \$4,106,813; horses and mules, \$3,386,314; jewelry, \$16,966; dogs, \$13,015; plantation tools and machinery, \$630,701; all other property, \$562,055.

There were 78,415 negro poll tax payers on the list, 151 doctors, 30 dentists, and 45 embalmers.

—The City Builder.

WIDOW GETS ESTATE OF ALONZO HERNDON

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 12.—The will of Alonzo F. Herndon, one of Atlanta's prominent men, who died several days ago, was filed Friday for probate in the office of the ordinary of Fulton county. The estate is estimated at \$500,000.

The larger part of the estate was left to his widow, Mrs. Jessie G. Herndon, and his son, Norris B. Herndon, and they were appointed administrators.

Several charitable bequests were included in the provisions of the last testament, among them being \$2,000 to the Herndon Social Center day nursery and \$1,000 each to Atlanta university and the Leonard St. orphanage, the Diana Pace orphanage, of Covington and the Carrie Steele orphanage.

Sums of \$1,000 each were bequeathed to Carrie H. Herndon, a niece and Alonzo Herndon, a nephew and Richard Berry, a cousin. The residue of the estate goes to the widow and son.

Herndon was president of the Atlanta Life Insurance company.

Georgia Negroes Property Grows

ATLANTA, Ga.—The valuation of property owned by negroes in Georgia increased in 1926, over the values of 1925, by \$1,284,453, according to figures just compiled by Chief Clerk W. B. Harrison in the comptroller general's department. The total return of negro-owned property in the state for taxation at this time carried a value of \$47,007,002, in which is included 1,486,988 acres of land at a valuation of \$13,778,812; city and town property worth \$22,615,670; automobiles valued at \$1,331,128; money and solvent debts worth \$242,575; stocks of goods and merchandise \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture \$4,106,813; horses and mules \$3,386,314; jewelry \$16,966; plantation tools and machinery \$630,701; dogs \$13,015; all other property \$562,055. There are 78,415 poll tax payers on the list of negroes; 13 lawyers returned for their professions tax; 151 doctors, 30 dentists and 45 embalmers.

LOOKING AND LISTENING

BY SAM W. SMALL

The Righteous Appeal for Justice to the State's Negro Colleges.

The white people of Georgia want the colored people of the state to live here peacefully, labor in security and with profit, and prosper proportionally with the commonwealth at large.

To those ends the better citizens wish their colored neighbors to have all the educational advantages possible to the community resources and of which the negroes will take advantage.

The idea prevalent in a past generation that an educated negro is necessarily an impudent, irresponsible and dangerous person is not only played out in Georgia, but has been demonstrated exactly to the contrary, and the fact is that the most orderly, thrifty and productive negro citizens of the state are those that have enough education to read, to absorb information, to write, and to manage their affairs intelligently with-

out the aid of dubious white or colored mentors. It has been the educated negroes of Georgia who have increased their taxable property from \$5,764,293 in 1880 to \$47,007,002 in 1926.

out the aid of dubious white or colored mentors.

It has been the educated negroes of Georgia who have increased their taxable property from \$5,764,293 in 1880 to \$47,007,002 in 1926.

Give the Negro a Square Deal.

It is facts of observation and figures like the above that impel some of the ablest and most influential men of the state to interest themselves actively for the educational advancement of our colored people and to demand, as simple, civilized justice, that a square deal in that respect be given to them.

These wise men, eminent in law, legislation, agriculture and industrial economics, are not rainbow chasers and have no fanciful fads in dealing with the problem of improving negro conditions of life and their efficiency in self-civilization.

They are men of life-long experience with negro personalities, psychologies, physical possibilities and industrial competency when trained to a given vocation. They know, as few can better know, how well and economically a growing generation of negroes in Georgia, leavened and led by educated teachers, can become one of the greatest of the assets of the state.

Hence the insistence of such outstanding leaders as Hon. A. Pratt Adams, Hon. Alexander R. Lawton, Jr., Hon. A. G. Cleveland, Judge W. M. Goodwin, Hon. C. E. Brown, Chancellor Snelling and State Superintendent Duggan, that the general assembly enact the square deal for the state's colored educational institutions.

* * * *

taxes alone, and yet are to be allowed only \$65,000 for their state institutions of better than elementary school education.

What just man is there in all Georgia who will solemnly call that square dealing?

A Critical Condition.

The members of the legislature do not seem to realize that the \$32,666.67 that will go to the Georgia State Industrial College for Negroes at Savannah is only the sum which the state is obligated to the federal government to appropriate, in order for the state university to get \$33,000 of the Morrill fund money out of the federal treasury. They do not understand that in Comptroller General McCarl at Washington we have to deal with a hard-boiled, independent congressional official whom the president of the United States cannot bulldoze and the director of the national budget cannot budge!

And McCarl has told State Auditor Slate in plain terms that unless we Georgians play fair with that federal money and give the colored college its proper share he will shut off the entire fund until we do our bounden duty!

And what McCarl says, goes! All the senators and congressmen from Georgia cannot turn a hair on his scalp.

So, if we do not want to see the white boys and girls of the state deprived of the great benefits of that federal money, we had better do the square thing and give the negroes their share of it.

* * * *

The Work Is Worth the Money.

The records of these negro training schools has been fully explained by their white trustees, men of highest character and veracity, and by the state superintendent of education.

The men selected to preside over them are colored educators of clearest character and tested abilities. They have the respect of the leading educational authorities of the nation.

They are training young and earnest spirited negro boys and girls in agriculture, the mechanical trades, domestic science and in teaching arts. Their graduates are conspicuously absent from our courts, jails and chain gangs.

To so educate those young negroes and send them forth among their people as missionaries and exemplars of industry and thrift is an investment in insurance of good citizenship, law and order, and general welfare.

The very first primer of statesmanship should teach a Georgia legislator the wisdom and value of giving to these institutions, so capably directed by the premier white leaders of the state, the sympathetic and substantial support demanded by the plain facts of their case at the bar of the state's honor.

Do Justice Tho' the Heavens Fall!

Against the calm calculations and reasoned arguments of such authoritative men the petty demagogue rails as impotently as though he tried to spit out the fire of the sun.

They do not come to the general assembly asking charity and begging for hand-outs. As state chosen trustees for our colored fellow-citizens they are asking for that just treatment of their charges that the honor and interests of the whole state require.

They show that of the \$1,850,000

allocated for higher education it is proposed to give the negroes approximately only \$65,000. And this pittance in face of the facts that the negroes are 41 per cent of our population, that the whites monopolize their entire representation in congress and in the general assembly, that the negroes own and pay taxes on \$47,000,000 of property, that they pay around 5 per cent of all taxes in the commonwealth, and their share of the taxes paid by all utility and trading corporations in the state.

Last year they paid \$78,415 of poll

Property - 1927.

MACON, GA., 2000
FEB 18 1927

Georgia Negroes' Property Valued At \$47,007,002

Special to The News
ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 18.—Negroes assessed property valued at \$47,007,002 for taxation in Georgia this year, showing an increase of \$1,284,453 over last year's valuations, according to figures given out Thursday by W.

B. Harrison, tax clerk in the office of Comptroller General William A. Wright. The white tax list has not yet been totalled.

The valuation of property owned by Georgia's negroes was summarized as follows: 1,486,988 acres of land, \$13,778,812; city and town property \$22,615,670; automobiles \$1,331,129; money and solvent debts \$242,575; merchandise and stocks of goods \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture \$4,106,813; horses and mules \$3,386,314; jewelry \$16,966; dogs \$13,015; plantation tools and ma-

chinery \$630,701; all other property \$562,055.

There were 78,415 negro poll tax payers on the lists, 13 lawyers, 151 doctors, 30 dentists and 45 embalmers.

Jefferson, Ga., Jackson Herald

AUG 4 1927

WEALTHY NEGRO WAS UNIQUE CHARACTER

An interesting story has come to light of the life of Serman Ingram, wealthy negro farmer and land owner, who was instantly killed by a bolt of lightning while walking through a field toward his home on Tuesday afternoon of last week.

It seems that Ingram had counted each one of the trees in the timber tract for which he had been offered a large sum of money by local lumbermen and valued the timber at sixty thousand dollars.

He could not get quite this

amount for the timber and was still holding out at the time of his death.

Ingram is said to have buried a tidy sum of money somewhere around his home, and his family may never locate its hiding place.

He was the father of eighteen living children and regardless of his wealth he required them to work every day on his farm.

Ingram did not own an automobile or a good horse and buggy and frequently walked to Sparta to do his trading. He is said, by those who knew him well, to have been the most remarkable character they had ever seen of his race.—The Sparta Ishmalite.

HUGE INCREASE IN NEGRO TAXES

Negro property owners in Georgia during 1926 paid into the State Tax Collector's office a total of \$47,007,002 in taxes, which was an increase over the previous year of \$1,284,453, according to figures compiled Thursday by W. B. Harrison, chief clerk in Comptroller General William A. Wright's office. The figures were compiled from the various county digests of the state.

A compilation of the figures shows that a total of 1,486,988 acres of land is owned by negroes in Georgia, with a value of \$13,778,812; automobiles valued at \$1,331,129, merchandise valued at \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture with a value of \$4,106,813; horses and mules valued at \$3,386,314; dogs with a value of \$13,015, and jewelry valued at \$16,966.

The total number of negro poll taxpayers is 78,415. There are negro lawyers in Georgia; 151 doctors, 30 dentists, and 45 embalmers, he reports show.

HERALD

AUG 5 1927

THE SLAVE MILLIONAIRE

Alonzo F. Herndon of Atlanta, born a slave, died the other day a respected citizen of Atlanta, leaving the largest barber shop in the city, also a cemetery association and a life insurance company, and an estate valued at \$1,000,000.

The barber shop is a unique institution. It started with one chair, operated by the owner himself. It now extends for a whole block on a prominent street and has 42 chairs.

Herndon began as his own boss, and ended the boss of 700 employees.

He succeeded by courtesy, intelligence and honesty. His career proves, more, more than a thousand lectures or sermons could, that the colored man has a chance in this country, and his chance depends on himself.

HERNDON ESTATE SET AT \$500,000

ATLANTA, GA., AUG. 3.—The will of Alonzo E. Herndon, one of the most successful figures in the colored business world in this country who died several days ago, was admitted to probate in the office of the ordinary of Fulton county Friday. The estate is estimated at \$500,000.

The larger part of the estate was left to his widow, Mrs. Jesie H. Herndon, and his son, Norris B. Herndon, both of whom were appointed administrators.

Several charitable bequests were included in the provisions of the last testament, among them being \$2,000 to the Herndon Social Center day nursery and \$1,000 each to Atlanta University, Leonard Street Orphanage, Diana Pace Orphanage, of Covington and the Carrie Steeke Orphanage.

Sums of \$1,000 each were bequeathed to Carrie H. Herndon, a niece; Alonzo Herndon, a nephew; and Richmond Berry, a cousin. The residue of the estate goes to the widow and son.

Aside from owning and operating a chain of barber shops one of which compares favorably with any in the country, Mr. Herndon was president of Atlantic Life Insurance Company and of the Southview Cemetery Association.

Negro-Owned Property In Georgia Increases \$1,284,453 in Year

Negroes assessed property valued at \$47,007,002 for taxation in Georgia this year, showing an increase of \$1,284,453 over last year's valuation, according to figures given out on Thursday by W. B. Harrison, tax clerk in the office of Comptroller General William A. Wright. The white tax list has not yet been totalled.

The valuation of property owned by Georgia negroes was summarized as follows: 1,486,988 acres of land, \$13,778,812; city and town property, \$22,615,670; automobiles, \$1,331,129; money and solvent debts, \$242,575; merchandise and stocks of goods, \$322,952; household and kitchen furniture, \$4,106,813; horses and mules, \$3,386,314; jewelry, \$16,966; dogs, \$13,015; plantation tools and machinery, \$630,701; all other property, \$562,055.

There were 78,415 negro poll tax payers on the lists, 13 lawyers, 151 doctors, 30 dentists and 45 embalmers.

PROPERTY OF NEGROES VALUED AT \$47,007,002

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 28.—Assessed valuation of property owned by Negroes in Georgia amounted to \$47,007,002, according to figures compiled by W. B. Harrison, chief clerk of the office of General William A. Wright, state comptroller. The total valuation of property returned for taxation by white owners has not been compiled.

Property - 1927

Kentucky

Cynthiana, Ky., Log Cabin

DEC 23 1927

NEGRO LEAVES \$100,000 ESTATE

Charity bequests totaling \$2,500 were provided in the will of the late Ellen Davis, Negro, whose will was admitted to probate in the Fayette County court. She was one of the chief beneficiaries under the will of the late John T. Hughes, wealthy Fayette stockman, who died about three years ago. She leaves an estate of more than \$100,000.

Cash donations of \$500 were provided for the Good Samaritan Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital, the Blue Grass Tuberculosis Sanatorium on the Georgetown pike, the Methodist Episcopal Church, colored, and the colored orphan's home on the Georgetown pike. The remainder of the estate goes to the testator's son, Robert Henry Hughes, of Lexington.

Property - 1927

Massachusetts.

WATT TERRY IS NOW INSURED FOR \$545,000

**Brockton Realty Operator
Believed Highest Insured
Race Man In World.**

**BEGAN MILLION DOLLAR
FORTUNE WITH 15 CTS.**

**Landed In New York An Or-
phan 44 Years Ago With
Less Than Dollar.**

BROCKTON, Mass.—
Practically doubling his life insurance coverage of \$275,000, Watt Terry, age 44, well known Brockton realty owner, has increased the value placed on his life to \$545,000 and is perhaps the most heavily insured race man in the world, it has just been disclosed.

Terry, who during the last 20 years has built up a fortune of more than a million dollars, will not die soon, but when he does, his estate will be valued around the two million mark. He doesn't know his exact age. Parents failed to record it. He thinks he's 40 but gives the insurance company the benefit of the doubt by writing 44.

BEGAN WITH 15 CTS.

Terry's huge fortune began about 20 years ago when he landed in New York with fifteen cents and secured a position as junior janitor in the Brockton Y. M. C. A. He saved his first \$100 by "loaning" \$10 weekly to the senior janitor who at the end of that time presented him with a \$100 savings account in "payment."

LEFT AN ORPHAN

Left an orphan in Mecklenburg County, Va., he had little education and immediately upon settling in

Brockton he began to supplement his learning by attending night school. His first real estate experience began while employed in a shoe factory ten hours daily. He began to collect rent for freinds after working hours. The success attending his thrift made him decide to enter the business and his first big venture was the acquisition

of an eight family house of which he acted as both landlord and janitor.

In the ensuing years Mr. Terry has built up a large business in Brockton and New York.

COMPANIES CHANGE POLICY

The large amount of insurance carried by Terry also reveals the changing policy of many of the large life insurance companies. Although the so called difference in the mortality risks between white and colored insured, insurance companies are reaching out more and more for coverage of wealthy race men.

William Mobley Has Won Fortune and Friends As Owner and Handler of Fine Dogs In American Bench Shows Kentucky Born, Lives In Haverhill, Mass., and Numbered J. P. Morgan, Banker, As Friend; Shows Boston Terriers, Likes All Dogs

In the Sunday Herald Tribune, an interesting story is told by Frank F. Dole, one of America's most noted dog fanciers, about William Mobley of Haverhill, Mass., a colored man, born in Kentucky, who, through his love for dogs, became the friend of J. Pierrepont Morgan and other of the country's distinguished citizens, and amassed a comfortable fortune.

The story follows:

By FRANK F. DOLE.

The dog game has a peculiar faculty for drawing to it and holding the interests of persons in all walks of life. It breeds friendships between the lowly and the great and it is not surprising that it has attached to it many unusually colorful personalities. One such is certainly William Mobley, of Haverhill, Mass., known there

and to all dog fanciers as Professor Bill.

William Mobley, a Negro boy, was born down in Kentucky and like all boys there, Negro as well as white, his first canine pals were the houn' dawgs. He rambled with them through the fields and woods and grew to have an understanding of and love for all dogs, irrespective of size, color or breeding.

Convinced the greatest opportunity for men of his race lay in the North, Bill left Kentucky and in 1873 wandered into Haverhill without a penny in his pockets but with a firm determination to get somewhere. That today he is one of the substantial residents of that community, comfortably wealthy and a power for good in the city, speaks well for his determination, his

Sell Terrier To Morgan.

It was his interest in Boston terriers that brought to Professor Bill a friendship he has always cherished. It was early one morning at the 1910 Westminster show at the old arden when a portly man came in the back door. One of the attendants at the show whispered to Bill, who was working over his dogs, "That's J. P. Morgan." The banker, always a great dog fancier, came over to the Boston section and began to talk to Bill about the terriers. He said that he wanted one for a friend and Bill recommended a dog called Little Star belonging to Big Jack Sullivan. This dog weighed eleven pounds and was a good one from the tip of its nose to its tail.

Mr. Morgan said he would either come back later in the day or send someone else. When Sullivan arrived Bill made a deal with him for the dog for \$150. Later in the day Mr. Morgan returned and Bill introduced him to the owner, to whom the banker gave a check for \$750. Later Jack Sullivan said "I'll fix it up with you when we get back to Boston," and it is quite probable he would have done so had he not contracted pneumonia and died shortly after the show.

While there was no money in the trade for Bill, it started what became a great friendship. Each year when he arrived at the New York show one of the first persons to look Bill up was Mr. Morgan. They would talk over the game, discussing what had happened during the year. Bill would bring out his terriers and show their good points to his fellow fancier, and then they would adjourn to the collie section, where the great string from the Morgan kennels were on exhibition, and talk over the chances of the collies in the coming competition.

Met Many Great Men.

"That experience more than anything else," Bill told the writer, "convinced me there was a great opportunity for the black man to get ahead. Since then I have had the chance to meet some of the greatest men in the world, and I have found that in the things that count a man's color makes no great difference. I am a great believer in my race, and since I came here I have been able to see they were well looked after.

Professor Bill made his start as a bootblack and still owns a bootblack parlor and tailoring establishment. At one time or another, he has owned all the motion pic-

ture theaters in Haverhill, at one time having them all under his direction. He has helped more people get on their feet than any other person I know, and the residents of Haverhill swear by him.

The Boston terrier still holds Bill's loyalty and he can be found at many of the shows with a few good ones on exhibition. He dislikes the present day judging and was most outspoken about it at the recent Essex County show. He watched Walter Reeves, Canadian professional, handling the non-sporting group and said, "That's the way to judge. He just looks them over, makes up his mind and places them as he sees them. I do not like the stalling that most judges think they have to go through. They make a lot of mo-

tions and then give it according to the reputation of the dog or the owner."

Although he thinks the Boston about the greatest breed there is, he surprised me by picking another variety when I asked him what he considered the greatest dog he ever saw. Without the least hesitation he replied, "The Airedale, King Oorang. He made a picture I can never forget. He looked perfectly able to do anything any other dog could do and then some."

In spite of his dislike for the modern judging, Bill has continued from the start to support the dog game and the breed to which he is devoted. He has done much for it and fanciers as a whole owe him a great deal. As one lover of the game once said to him, "He may be black on the outside, but underneath he is as white as they make them!"

OIL QUEEN WILL GET \$300,000

Mrs. S. Rector Campbell Is Winner of Litigation After a Fight of Fourteen Years

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 1.—Mrs. Sarah Rector-Campbell, wealthy Kansas City oil woman, Tuesday won a law case involving approximately \$300,000 in disputed oil royalties in a decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. The dispute had been under way for fourteen years.

Right to Party Challenged.

Mrs. Campbell in 1906, was awarded 160 acres of land in Creek county, Oklahoma, which it later developed, was in the heart of the Cushing, Oklahoma, oil field. Forty-eight wells were drilled under a one-eighth royalty contract with two drilling companies.

Then Mrs. Campbell's guardian entered into a contract with the oil companies to drill in the bed of the Cimarron river, which flows through her tract of land. She was to receive forty-eight and one-half per cent royalty on the oil under this contract.

But the federal government and the state of Oklahoma both challenged the right of Mrs. Campbell to royalties on oil taken from the bed of the stream, declaring the allotment to her of the 160 acres did not include the stream.

Share to Be Given.

The total value of the 160 acres in the tract amounted to \$20,000,000. The total involved in the present suit on the oil taken from the river bed is not known, but on the basis of the value of the remainder of the tract, Anthony P. Nugent, Kansas City attorney for Mrs. Campbell, estimated her share would reach \$300,000.

Charles Phelps of St. Joseph, Missouri, is Now Building a Fifty Thousand Dollar Theatre. He also is supporting the Colored Orphans Home in his town, and a home for Aged Colored People. A Real sensible, progressive colored man, rated to be worth over \$150,000.

BY NICK CHILES

We were the guests of our old

friends, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Phelps, who are among the finest, up-to-date, industrious and race loving people of our race. Mr. Phelps has lived in St. Joseph for almost a half century. He has been a hard worker all those years toiling, saving and earning at the same time. He has a church, lodges, poor, orphans and decrepit. By being honest and upright in dealing with his fellow beings, he has accumulated wealth which some of his friends say put him in the \$150,000.00 class. He and his good wife are now operating the Dudley Theater in one of their many brick buildings on North Second Street. They have outgrown this place, and he has purchased a three story building on Third and Francis, just across from the Metropole Hotel at a cost of several thousand dollars. He is going to do what no other colored man has been known to do. He is going to wreck this three story building and build thereon a fine cosmopolitan theater which will be one story and will be modeled and fashioned after some of the finest theaters in the country. He already has the architect making the plans. We do not know of another colored man in all of the United States that has ever been able to accomplish a thing of this kind along theatrical lines. All the best show houses in the country that cater to colored are owned by Jews or some American white man. Mr. Phelps and his wife are in a class by themselves when it comes to doing business along this line. He gives employment and labor to a great number of colored people. In fact if it wasn't for Charles Phelps, the colored people of St. Joseph would be in despair.

Some years ago Uncle Jerry Grider, an honest old Christian gentleman with no education, conceived the idea

of organizing an orphanage, old folks home and hospital. He made a success while some of the wise acres among the colored people joked and made fun of his adventure, but before

he died they were glad to bow at his feet and acknowledge him as their superior. After his death, notwithstanding the several Christian churches and Womens' clubs among the race, this institution went down. There was some attempt made to graft the people with a presumption that something was being done. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps, seeing this deplorable condition, joined in with an organization and elected a board of directors and took charge of the home and have refitted and repaired and cleaned it up. After this, a few of the Judas Iscariot type, who never promote or do anything original, decided they would overthrow this organization. So they went into court, but the judge, who could see the dishonest methods being applied in the case, decided in favor of Mr. Phelps and his board, which was right. We visited this home and found five sweet little children ranging from two to six years old. When we entered the building they came running to us with outstretched arms, saying "Howdy, Mr. Phelps." We have been told that we resemble Mr. Phelps in features, so since these children recognized the same, we will have to conclude that it is true.

We were met by the matron and her husband, who are two fine old people. We visited thru every room upstairs and down and found everything clean and the children neatly dressed and clean and well trained. We hope that this old couple will remain in charge of this institution as we believe they are honest and sincere and will devote their time to the care and keeping of these children.

When Mr. Phelps and his committee took charge of this institution the property was all grown up in weeds.

Intention is to buy additional lots with the intention of adding a hospital and make more improvements to the home. If the colored people of St. Joseph will not interfere with Mr. and Mrs. Phelps in the operation of this home, but will follow their lead-

ing, this will be one of the greatest charitable institutions in that section of the country. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps are capable and have the finance, reputation and standing among the best business white people of St. Joseph who will assist them in every way to

make this one of the greatest organizations in the country.

Dr. C. S. Wheatley of St. Joseph, is the only successful leading chiropractor in the United States. He has a large practice and employs four or five young ladies who are learning the profession. His large, spacious and commodious office is crowded from morning until night. His patrons are among the wealthiest and best white people of that section.

Dr. Bershears, the dentist, enjoys one of the biggest practices of the west. His practice is among both races and he is busy all of the time.

On our visit to St. Joseph, Missouri last week we were surprised to find Rev. C. P. Morrow erecting a fine church, 55 by 66 feet, brick trimmed in gray stone. It is to have a gymnasium, equipped with shower baths, laboratories, dining room, kitchen, pastor's study and everything right up to the minute. It will cost approximately \$755,000.00, when completed. It will be known as St. Francis Baptist Temple. It will also have individual class rooms, a mother's room and Sunday school auditorium. Rev.

Morrow was called to this church in May, 1925. He is loved and highly respected by everybody. He has a loyal congregation and his good wife is one of the best church organizers in the country. He is a member of the board of education of the State Baptist Convention. He has just ended a sixty day rally, in which he raised over \$1,500.00. His wife, who was head of the Baby Ruth club led all the other clubs by bringing in \$140.45.

Property - 1927

RACE LEADER LEFT \$50,000

**Local Man Gets \$5,000 Thru
Will of the Late John
Broomfield of Omaha**

Special

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 14.—The will of John H. Broomfield, wealthy Race political leader, filed in county court Monday and involving an estate at more than 50 thousand dollars leaves more than half of his property to his adopted son Leroy C. Broomfield of Omaha. Mr. Broomfield died suddenly of heart trouble September 7.

To his brothers George, of St. Louis, Nathan of Chicago, and Levi of Omaha; a niece, Mrs. Coresia Shockley of Omaha and a nephew, LeRoy of Chicago, the will bequeaths five thousand dollars each. Eddie Robinson and Leon Wallace of Omaha, friends, are left one thousand dollars each. The rest goes to the adopted son. The will was drawn December 26, 1925.

Property includes 113 lots in Carv. Ind., a store building at Twenty-fourth and Erskine streets, the Broomfield apartments at Lake and Twenty-fifth street, and the residence at 2124 Lake street. Personal property including building and loan stock, mortgages and jewelry is listed at 10 thousand dollars. Bloomfield is said by his attorneys, Monsky, Katleman & Grodinsky, to have given away a considerable portion of his wealth in recent years.

Property - 1927

Relatives Hope To Break

Crank's' \$100,000 Will

24
After American
Baltimore Md.
10-27

MAYS LANDING, N. J.—Relative left \$500 each by "Cranky" John W. Underhill who willed his \$100,000 fortune to whites for park improvement and equipment of a school "gym" filed suit in Chancery Court last week to break the will.

Underhill died in October, 1925, and the Marine Trust Company, Atlantic City, his executor, has not as yet made any settlement under the will. Recently, Edward Washington, of Aurora, Ill., a halfbrother; Ella Jenkins, halfsister, of Omaha, and Edward Wesley Laura and Henrietta Rivers of White Cloud, Mich. are asking to have the will set aside. The township will endeavor to sustain the will.

When Mr. Underhill died, he was given a public funeral, the services being held in the courthouse here.

Edward Washington was left \$500 by Underhill's will, and the same amount was left to each of his half-sisters. The surviving heirs declare that the township committee, to which was left two-thirds of the property for park improvement, is not a corporate body and cannot hold nor convey real estate, and that insofar as this bequest is concerned Underhill died intestate.

Underhill kept a notion store opposite the public school for many years, and kiddies' pennies spent for candy made him wealthy.

RELATIVES SEEK

TO BREAK WILL OF JERSEY MAN

Wealthy Negro Left His Estate of \$100,000 To Township

Mays Landing, N. J.—When John W. Underhill, who ran a store here during his lifetime, was buried two years ago, his will disclosed a fortune of \$1000,000, two-thirds of which was left to the Hamilton Township Committee for improvements to the town park and equipment of the school gymnasium.

Age

But relatives, to whom he had left only \$1,500 each, have filed exceptions to the will on the ground that the Committee is not a corporate body and cannot own or convey real estate, and that this invalidates the will.

The settling of the estate had been held up by technicalities, and

Property - 1927

New York.

FLORENCE MILLS' ESTATE VALUED AT \$33,146.88

West 133d Street Home in Name of Her Husband—Dr Brown Denies He Charged \$1,000 for Use of Church

The quarter of a million dollars which the late Florence Mills is reputed to have been worth has melted down to \$33,146.88 in cash. She left no real estate.

These facts came to light when U. S. "Kid" Thompson, the "Blackbird's" husband, filed a petition for letters of administration of his late wife's estate. Through his attorney, Ralph Eugene Mizelle, 200 Broadway, Thompson made application to Surrogate Foley in the Surrogate Court of N. Y. County Thursday, and the petition was granted the following day. Florence Mills left no will. She also left no debts, it is said.

The beautiful home at 220 West 133d street, which Florence Mills is reported to have bought, is owned by her husband.

The distribution of personal property under the Decedent Estate Law of New York will divide Florence

Mills' estate equally between her husband and her mother, Mrs. Nellie Winfrey, after all expenses and debts have been paid.

From the estate must be deducted the cost of the funeral. The total cost of the funeral was \$5,927.50, this amount including the cost of the casket, which was at first reported to cost \$10,000.

\$1,000 NOT CHARGED
BY DR. BROWN.

U. S. "Kid" Thompson denies, elsewhere in these columns, the report that he was obliged to pay to the Rev. James W. Brown, pastor of Mother A. M. E. Zion Church, the sum of \$1,000 for the use of the church for funeral services over the remains of Florence Mills. The Rev. Dr. Brown also denies that any

thing was charged for the use of the church. "Not a penny was charged," said the Rev. Brown, "although the church is very much in need of money. Donations are always acceptable. The funeral of the late Florence Mills was held in Mother Zion without cost of any kind."

It was learned from a reliable source, however, that \$100 was paid for the use of the church. Mrs. Winfrey, mother of Florence Mills, is a member of the Mother Zion Church.

Finder Becomes Owner of \$30,000 Necklace

New York, April 15.—Mrs. Adelaide Forts became the owner of a \$30,000 strand of 130 graduated pearls with a diamond and platinum clasp Wednesday when the police were unable to find the owner after a year's hunt. Mr. Forts found the pearls at 135th St. and Lenox Ave. She carried them to a jeweler and attempted to sell them for \$5. He notified the police and she was arrested.

After telling how the pearls came into her possession she was released and the police set out to find the owner. Advertisements for the pearls were published, but there was no response. After a stated time set by law the finder of an article becomes the owner, so Thomas Horgan, property clerk of the police department, turned the necklace over to Mrs. Forts.

BRONX HOME NEWS

MAY 9 1927

Harlem Colored Tenants Fight Increases in Rents

An organized fight against the raise of rents on June 1 in the apartment houses at 117, 127 and 131 W. 141st St., was planned yesterday when more than 100 colored persons held a protest meeting in Savoy Dance Hall, Lenox Ave., between 140th and 141st Sts.

Committees were appointed and lawyers retained to combat what is claimed to be an unlawful increase. Other sections of Harlem were said to be highly indignant over increases, too.

At yesterday's meeting one woman said ten years ago she paid \$47 monthly for six rooms and later \$70. After June 1, she said, she must pay \$120, a \$50 raise.

HARRY WILLS CUTS RENTS IN HARLEM

Gilliburn

Landlords Resent Activities of New Owner—Race Reaps Benefit

By Chappy Gardner
NEW YORK, Sept. 29.—The recent action of Harry Wills in reducing rents on his newly acquired 60-family apartments on fashionable St. Nicholas place, has brought the wrath of white property owners down on the big maunder's head. Harry made a deliberate reduction of five dollars on five-room apartments that were renting for sixty dollars. Six rooms renting for \$75 were cut to \$70. Such reducing capers are not usually cut by old landlords. No matter how much one kicks for repairs, bad heat in winter, and bad plumbing at times. The tenants in this unusual case have reaped all the benefits by having a chance to save a few extra dollars on a year's rent.

White owners in the vicinity renting swell apartments to Race people are getting \$12 and \$13 more per month than Wills charges, and although told by the court that he was entitled to more rent by law, Harry Wills refuses to raise. To go them one better, the big fellow has had all apartments done over—painted, sand blasted outside and has added many new features never before enjoyed. This piece of choice property was purchased for more than two hundred thousand dollars. There are more choice parcels in real estate also owned by Harry in Harlem, not to mention his private luxurious home in West 139th street

which is the last word in appointment. It is also reported on good authority that Wills has more than a hundred acres of most desirable property in Virginia, where he has a large house gracing the well kept grounds. On this property a newly dug well sunken many feet into the ground yielded purest sulphur water, a fortune in itself for the man who kept one champion dodging him for years.

HARLEM REALTOR BUYS FINE HOME IN MT. VERNON

In Restricted Neighborhood; Objections Of Whites Overcome

New York
One of the most beautiful and best appointed homes in Mt. Vernon, N. Y., will soon be occupied by the family of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Anderson of 135-137 West 123rd street who will take title on May 12 to the eight-room house of attractive English architecture at 353 South Tenth avenue, for which they are to pay the sum of \$15,000.

Mr. Anderson is the senior member of the real estate firm of A. T. Anderson & Co., with offices at 322 Menox avenue, and his wife is Mrs. A. T. Anderson, president of the Anderson Laboratories Inc., and College of Beauty Culture at 2157 Seventh avenue. They are at present occupying a spacious and comfortable apartment at the 123rd street address, but have been able to dispose of the lease.

In securing the Mt. Vernon residence as a family home, Mr. Anderson is carrying out a plan which he has been developing for some time, the opening up of desirable properties in Westchester and contiguous territory for occupancy by colored families who are economically able to afford suburban residence and who are of the type socially and culturally that will make them desirable additions to any community.

A Restricted Neighborhood

The neighborhood in which this home is located is one of Mt. Vernon's most desirable, and the residences are all of a high type. It is a restricted residential neighborhood, most of the houses being limited to one-family structures. There are only a few two-family buildings.

The Anderson's new home is located in the center of a plot 66-2-3 by 105 feet, thus affording ample lawn and yard space. An inclosed porch about 8 feet deep, extends around three sides of the house, and the front door opens into an expansive foyer hall entrance. Every modern convenience, including a special breakfast nook, electric equipment, steam heat and instantaneous hot water is provided, and the house is only a ten minutes walk from the 242nd street terminal of the East Side subway.

The building is owned and occupied by Mrs. Frances Swartzberg and family, and some of the white property owners of the immediate neighborhood have expressed strong disapprobation of the sale of the house to Mr. Anderson. There is only one colored family anywhere around, living on an

other block, and this family is well liked by all of its neighbors. And Mrs. Swartzberg's reply to all of her critics has been: "Well, I'm not the first owner to sell to decent, respectable, prosperous colored people, and you can rest assured I will not be the last."

Deal Quickly Made

As a matter of fact, while there was no particular intention to keep the transaction a secret, the deal was consummated with such celerity as to almost set a record. Within less than a month after negotiations had begun, the contract was signed and the binder fee paid over. Mr. Anderson acted as his own broker in the deal and the legal end was handled by Attorney Arthur H. Taylor, a recent addition to New York's legal fraternity (who is Mr. Anderson's cousin), with law offices at 322 Lenox avenue Manhattan, and at 214 South Seventh street, Mt. Vernon. Mr. Taylor is now associated with the A. T. Anderson & Co. firm as legal advisor. He is an A. B. from Lincoln University, and took his bachelor of laws degree at the University of Buffalo. He was associated with a prominent down town law firm for several years before coming up-town.

Besides the attractive lawn and architectural features of the new home, there are fruit and shade trees and the entire plot is surrounded by a thick hedge, about four feet in front, running to six feet on sides and at rear.

After the Swartzberg family has moved out, the Andersons plan making additional improvements, but intend taking possession without delay. Besides Mr. Anderson and his wife, there is a charming little daughter, Eileen, 9 years old, and it is largely for the sake of the little girl that the suburban move is being made.

Commenting on the proposed move, Mr. Anderson says that he hopes to see provided more and more opportunities for members of the race to secure for themselves homes under the most satisfactory living conditions, and he is of the opinion that Westchester and surrounding territory will furnish such environments.

EX-PORTER BUYS A \$55,000 BUILDING

W. J. Price Founded Big Business On Building Fair Booths

STARTED AS PORTER

Lad Left Va. To Seek Fortune Thirty Years Ago

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—W. J. Price, 40 Putnam street, who left Danville, Virginia, thirty years ago as a poor boy to seek a career in the Nation's Great Metropolis, registered for the purchase of a \$55,000 building last week.

Such is the introductory sketch to this modern Negro exemplar of "From Rags to Riches," who a bare quarter of a century ago was working in New York in an humble capacity in the office of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul railroad, and today looms large on the horizon of the rapidly developing economic life in Greater New York.

Opens Tea Store

Price's first venture was made in business about 14 years after he came to New York, when he opened a tea store at 85 Utica avenue, Brooklyn. Seeking to enlarge his tea sales, he has upon a novel species of advertisement in the form of a booth which he set up at church fairs to get his wares before potential customers.

Some struck by Price's ingenuity at booth construction spoke of his work to a Caucasian friend and as result the booth builder was requested to set up some booths for a fair to be held for the Poughkeepsie Hospital. He did.

Future

Now Price thought he saw a future in the field of furnishing portable booths to hire for bazaars, fairs, lawn fetes, business expositions and the like. So the hero wrote first his efforts as a tea merchant and went to the booth building business with a will and a vigor. This was in 1912.

Since that time his services have come to be widely in demand. He numbers among his clientele, the Carlton Ave. "Y", Brooklyn; millionaire organizations sponsored by Anne Morgan and Mrs. Hewitt, New York City; the Western Union, numerous Race churches, The Curtis Publishing Company, and the Denison Manufacturing Company, whose show booths he constructs. In addition he controls as much as 80% of all the church work in Brooklyn.

Community Activities

Mr. Price hopes to devote the larger building just purchased, to community activities after early remodeling. He expects to convert it into stores, office rooms, lodge rooms and the like. He, together with Benjamin F. Brown, and Albert S. Campbell, is incorporating under the name, Commercial Community Company, Inc.

Four Stories

The property is an imposing four-story and basement brick, with 14,700

square feet, much of which is not built on, fronting on Fulton street to a width of 63 feet and extending back 200 feet to front of 84 feet on Herkimer street. It looks out on Lewis avenue, facing the Troy elevator station, and is on the Fulton street surface line, directly in the path of the new proposed subway. Besides, it is in the heart of a rapidly developing colored center.

N. Y. WORLD

JUN 15 1927

\$1,285,602 LOST TO EX-PRIEST'S KIN

Appraisal Shows This Is Net
Sum Library Will Get When
Widow and Aunt Die

RELATIVES LOST CONTEST

John R. Slattery Quit Catholic
Order in 1903

John R. Slattery, who in 1903 withdrew from the Catholic priesthood, then married, and in 1905 inherited \$800,000 from his father, had an estate of \$1,446,168 gross and \$1,285,602 net when he died in March, 1926, it was determined yesterday in an appraisal by Maurice A. Stephenson of the New York State Tax Commission.

He willed \$2,400 a year to an aunt, Mrs. Margaret Slattery, of No. 96 Ross Street, Brooklyn, and the rest of the income to his widow, Mrs. Adele Slattery, of No. 118 West 57th Street. When they die the estate will revert to the New York Public Library. This last provision caused astonishment at the library and consternation among relatives when it was disclosed in the will last year. No one at the library knew him.

The relatives, many of whom were poor, contested the will on the grounds of testamentary incapacity and other reasons, but failed to break it. No one has advanced any explanation for Mr. Slattery's cutting off his relatives.

He was the only son of James Slattery, who was known as "Boss" Slattery to New Yorkers nearly two generations ago because of his big contracting operations.

Father Slattery was head of St. Joseph's Seminary, a Baltimore institution for training Negroes for the priesthood, when he suddenly resigned from

the Josephite Order. After his marriage he traveled extensively. In 1912 his uncle, John Slattery, died and left him about \$400,000.

NEW YORK EVE, WORLD

RENT RAISE FOUGHT BY HARLEM NEGROES

Tenant Cites Increase From
\$47 to \$120 Monthly

More than 100 Negro tenants of apartment houses at Nos. 117, 127 and 131 West 141st Street held a protest meeting yesterday in Savoy Dance Hall, Lenox Avenue, between 140th and 141st Streets, against the raise of rents scheduled for June 1. Committees were appointed and lawyers retained to resist what the tenants characterize as an unlawful increase. The new scale is \$20 a room.

One woman tenant related that ten years ago she was paying \$47 monthly for six rooms and subsequently \$70. She has received notice that her rent after June 1 will be \$120, a raise of \$50.

Many Harlem Negroes are up in arms over similar action by landlords.

Harry Wills Purchases Juliette Apartments, 76-78 St. Nicholas Place, Property Valued \$150,000

Houses 32 Families, With Annual Rental Of
\$26,000—Ownes 148th St. Apartment, Home
On 139th St., Farm Down In Virginia

Although Harry Wills was not successful in achieving his ambition to meet Jack Dempsey in a fight for the heavyweight championship of the world, he has been one of the most successful fighters in the country from a financial point of view.

His last fight at Ebbetts Field, Brooklyn, a few weeks ago, en-

abled him to purchase the Juliette Apartments at 76-78 St. Nicholas place. The deal was closed by Fitzherbert Howell, well known Harlem real estate broker, in conjunction with Goodwin and Goodwin, on Friday, August 5. The purchase price was reported as \$150,000.

The Juliette apartments occupy a plot 75 x 100 feet, located near 154th street, in the vicinity of the Polo Grounds. The house accommodates 32 families, and shows a rental of \$26,000 annually.

This is the second large apartment house that Wills and his wife, Mrs. Sarah Wills, have bought in the past three years. Their other house is located on West 148th street, near the new Rockefeller apartments.

They also own a beautiful private house on West 139th street, valued at \$30,000, and a large farm at Mrs. Wills' former home, near Petersburg, Va.

Indications are that the former colored heavyweight champion will become one of the largest property owners in Harlem.

Property - 1927

Woman Says Whites Got Oil Revenue

Muskogee, Okla., March 25

—One of the most sensational suits ever contested in this state will take place during the first week in April when the case of Sally White vs. Tom Payne and the McCulloch Oil company is tried in February, is called for hearing in the federal court of Muskogee.

More than a million dollars are involved, and the ownership of one of the most famous oil estates in the country will be determined.

Mrs. Sally White, formerly Mrs. Sally Scott, nee Garrett, a Cree freedman, who now makes her home in Detroit, Mich., through her attorneys' Thomas H. Owens, William H. Twine, Chauncey D. Twine and E. Emmett Stewart, of our Race, is seeking the return of the estate to her, with a complete accounting of all transactions covering the discovery of oil and its marketing. The property in question, a tract of land in Okmulgee county known as "Jolly-Ogg," is said to be producing 4,000 barrels of oil daily, deriving an income of several hundred thousands of dollars each year.

Claim Fraud

According to facts brought forth in the statement filed by Mrs. White's attorneys, the deed now in the hands of operators of the estate was procured fraudulently and that it was never signed by her. Her attorneys declare that they will prove that she was not even in the state at the time the deed to the property was executed, but was in Washington, in government service. One of the other alleged signers of the papers, declares Mrs. White, could not even read or write in 1910, when the transaction was carried out.

Since the papers were filed in court here, Tom Payne, one of the defendants, has died. He was found dead in his room a few days after Mrs. White's suit was placed on record. While the other defendants have not answered the charges as set forth by Mrs. White, they immediately asked for a dismissal of the suit on grounds of insufficient evidence to prove fraud. This motion, it is expected will be heard also on April 4.

Never Signed Papers

The facts set forth by Mrs. White in her suit are this: She never signed

the papers by which the property was conveyed to the present operators; her signature was forged and that all operations were by fraud. Records disclose that the lease covering the drilling and sale of oil and other products of the land was sold last year to the McCulloch people by Jolly and Ogg for the sum of \$600,000. The last named couple have not been mentioned in the suit.

Representing the defendants are West, Gibson, Sherman, Davidson and Hull of Tulsa. This is considered the strongest array of legal talent ever assembled in this city and shows the importance of the case. If Mrs. White wins her contention, she will become one of America's richest women. The property was tapped early last year and has already produced more than \$1,000,000 in revenue. Today the wells are flowing as freely as they did on the first day of the strike, and, according to experts, are far from being exhausted. Unusual interest is being shown in this suit by operators throughout the state, because of the effect it may have upon other Creeks who have been dispossessed of their oil properties through various methods. The Oklahoma "Creeks" derived their name from "Creek Indians" by whom they were held as slaves and from whom they received 160 acres of land each as a settlement. Under the law of the state they are classified as "Negroes."

OWNS MILLION NOW, BUT STILL TILLS HIS FARM

EARLSBORO, Okla. — Although Forrest Anderson, farmer, has been placed into the million dollar class by the output of several oil gushers drilled on one of his farms some time ago, he still tills the soil and goes about the even tenor of his way. When oil was discovered on Anderson's farm and operation of the wells disturbed him, he acquired an adjoining farm and continued his life long vocation. He has not even seen his latest wells, he says, and trusts operations to an oil company.

White Seeks Guardianship Of Wealthy Negro Estate

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., April 6—G. M. Swanson, white, has filed a petition in the Muskogee county court, which has been moved to the federal court, for his appointment as guardian of the \$500,000 estate of Luther Manuel youthful colored owner of oil and real estate holdings. The petition was made on the grounds that the youth was being defrauded out of his wealth by schemers and as friend of Swanson, is seeking to protect the interest of Manuel.

In spite of the good intentions seemingly behind Swanson's act colored citizens are suspicious and believe that it is merely a design to get control of the vast estate.

The Negro in Industry.—The total Negro population in continental United States in 1920 was 10,463,131, an increase over the 9,827,763 of 1910. Of course this number 4,824,151 aged 10 years and over were engaged in gainful occupations in 1920 a decrease from 5,192,535 in 1910, the percentage of Negro population gainfully occupied is considerably larger than that of the white population.

Property - 1927

WANAMAKER FILES SUIT FOR \$11,000

**Poro College Founder's
Brother and Sister-in-
Law Also Held Liable For
Furnishings Used In
Philadelphia Home**

**ORIGINAL PURCHASE
AMOUNTED TO \$21,000**

PHILADELPHIA, Penna., April 7.—John Wanamaker Stores have entered suit in the Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia against Mrs. Annie M. Malone of St. Louis, the wealthy manufacturer of Poro toilet articles and president and owner of the Poro Manufacturing Company, St. Louis, and her brother, John L. Turnbo and his wife, for elaborate house furnishings, the cost of which was \$21,000, for the outfitting of premises 123 South 41st street, in which property Mr. and Mrs. Turnbo now reside.

The statement of claim sets forth the fact that in February, March and April, 1926, Mrs. Malone and her brother and sister-in-law ordered goods and furnishings for the entire house, including elaborate furnishings for all the rooms in the large mansion on South 41st street, at considerable cost to the purchasers. The dining room suit alone cost in the neighborhood of \$3,000. The draperies for the house cost over \$1,800, the Mason and Hamlin piano cost \$3,500 and the rugs \$3,000. The defense sets forth the fact that these goods were ordered and purchased by Mrs. Malone and not by Mr. and Mrs. Turnbo and that subsequently Mrs. Malone had some differences and declined to make further payment on account of these goods. A cash payment of \$10,000 was made by Mrs. Malone on account of this purchase, leaving a balance of upwards of \$11,000 now due. The defense reveals that service has not as yet been made upon Mrs. Malone, but service has been accepted by Mr. and Mrs. Turnbo

through their attorney, Raymond Pace Alexander, Esq., and a defense on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Turnbo has been filed in court by Mr. Alexander, which denies any liability on the part of Mr. and Mrs. Turnbo in this transaction.

The beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Turnbo will be remembered as the former home of Mr. Edward C. Brown, head of the Brown & Stevens Banking institution, which was purchased by the Turnbos in January, 1926, and re-finished and re-furnished in great detail and extravagance, at considerable cost. It is one of the finest residences among colored people in the East and stands as one of the prettiest homes in West Philadelphia. The property was purchased at a cost of \$50,000.

Pennsylvania

Property-1927

BANNER

MAR 28 1927

Local Negro Shine Boy Deserts Job When News of Rich Oil Strike Is Received From Jacksonville

Alf Carey, negro shine boy and porter, employed at the Washington Hotel Barber Shop, has temporarily deserted his shine stand and whisk broom, following the discovery last week of the new oil well in Cherokee County, and has gone to Jacksonville, where he originally lived, to "look over this heah situation ovah."

According to Carey he, with other members of his family, holds an

interest in a 75 acre farm located within three and a half miles of Jacksonville. The new gusher is located about ten miles from Jacksonville.

If Carey and other members of the Carey family still retain their royalty and leases on this tract and it falls within the boundaries of the potential field, then he may never have to shine another pair of boots, he believes.

GALVESTON, TEX.

FEB 12 1927

NEGRO "SQUATTERS" WOULD BE ALLOWED TO BUY LAND

By Associated Press.
Austin, Tex., Feb. 11. — Negro

squatters in Cherokee County, who have been paying taxes on sixty-two acres of state land for years, believing that the land belonged to them, will be able to buy the land for \$2 an acre if a bill passed by the house today becomes a law.

The land is owned by the state

and ordinarily would sell to homesteaders for \$5 an acre, but Representative Brown of Cherokee County prepared a bill allowing the squatters to buy it at the lower rate. The bill must pass the senate and receive the governor's approval before becoming a law.

MAN BORN IN SLAVERY, WHO SOLD \$45,000 PROPERTY IS AMONG EVENING STAR CONTESTANTS

(Preston News Service)

Washington, D. C., Jan. 21.—A most significant thing found among the manuscripts for entrance to the Own Your Home essay contest conducted by the Washington Evening Star as a feature of National Three Week observance, was an essay written by a man who was born in slavery and who recently sold a piece of Washington property for \$45,000. The writer traced the steps he took from slavery, beginning with his father's purchase of three acres of "sand hill" at \$100 an acre and the subsequent erection of a little log cabin to his own removal to Washington 36 years ago, when he purchased a home for \$3,500, and then on to the recent sale. The fact that he never rented, he writes, is responsible for his present status.

\$75,000 OIL FRAUD CASE IN SUPREME COURT

Granddaughter Of Ex-Slave Dies While Case Drags Thru The Courts

ADMINISTRATOR CARRIES ON IN HER PLACE

Property Worth \$75,000
Said To Have Been Sold
To Whites For \$168 Debt

By WALTER L. REEVES, JR.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—

What promises to be one of the biggest fraud cases ever argued in the Supreme Court of the United States will open here next Tuesday when William L. Houston, attorney, will appear for Thomas H. Dent.

Dent is administrator of the estate of Elmira Holland deceased of Liberty County, Texas, who is suing William S. Swilley, wife, to recover oil property valued at \$75,000. The case which began November 3, 1924, in the District Courts of Liberty County, Texas, has passed thru the higher courts of that state to the Supreme Court of the United States.

The facts which are at issue in the suit are as follows: George Reuben, an ex-slave resident of Texas, was given 168 acres of land by the white people to whom he belonged.

A grand daughter Miss Elmira Holland began suit three years ago to recover her grand dad's property which meantime has gotten into white folks' hands.

Since the suit was filed Miss Holland has died. The administrator of her estate Thomas H. Dent is carrying on the suit.

Reuben, died about 1892, without having obtained a patent to the land. For some time prior to his death, Reuben, being in ill health, had removed from the land and went to live with a Mrs. Ophelia Taylor white.

After Reuben's death Mrs. Taylor, applied for admission to sell the property for the payment of Reuben's debts.

Sold For \$168

By order of the court March 7, 1894 the land was sold to B. F. Cameron, W. S. Swilley and W. C. Moore, all white, for an alleged sum of \$168. Later on the purchasers sold the timber concession on the land for \$2500

alone. Thru the death of Cameron and Moore, Swilley by deed dated Sept. 28, 1927 acquired their interests.

Texas.

Property - 1927

Virginia.

JURY UPHOLDS WILL LEAVING \$35,000.00 TO ADOPTED SON

Disinherited Brother Fails In Effort To
Upset Testament—Suffolk Court
Crowded At Hearing

Journal and Guide Suffolk Bureau

Suffolk, Va., Aug. 4.—The will of the late J. I. Corbell in which he practically disinherited his brother J. C. Corbell, and left his estate valued at \$35,000 to his adopted son, George C. Bryant, was upheld by a jury in the City Circuit Court here Friday last. The brother had brought suit to have the will set aside, and trial of the case consumed an entire day, the jury getting the case at 10 o'clock at night. The verdict was returned after five minutes deliberation.

The trial proved one of the most interesting heard in the city for some time. Nearly sixty witnesses were called, a number of whom testified to the good character of the defendant and others giving evidence of hearing the late Mr. Corbell speak of the will. The court room was crowded most of the day, the spectators being about half white and half colored.

The attorneys for the Plaintiff were Martin, of Norfolk, and Maxwell, Howell and Fulcher, of Suffolk, while Saunders, Hutton and Crumpler represented Mr. Bryant. Judge McLemore presided at the session of the court.

Mr. Bryant is a prominent resident here. He resides on Pine St. and conducts a business on East Washington St. He will come into possession of the \$35,000 estate.